

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
8 AT SEATTLE

9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CASE NO. CR17-0203-JCC

10 Plaintiff,

ORDER

11 v.

12 STACIA QUARTO,

13 Defendant.
14

15 This matter comes before the Court on Defendant Stacia Quarto's unopposed motion to
16 seal (Dkt. No. 191) her sentencing memorandum and supplemental filings (Dkt. Nos. 192, 193,
17 194, 195).

18 The Court starts from the position that "[t]here is a strong presumption of public access to
19 [its] files." W.D. Wash. Local Civ. R. 5(g). To overcome this presumption, there must be a
20 "compelling reason" for sealing sufficient to outweigh the public's interest in disclosure. *Center*
21 *for Auto Safety v. Chrysler Group, LLC*, 809 F.3d 1092, 1100 (applying the "compelling reason"
22 test to motions to seal documents "more than tangentially related to the merits of a case").

23 Defendant seeks to maintain under seal her sentencing memorandum and supporting documents.
24 Information contained in these documents is highly personal and sensitive to Defendant, whereas
25 the public has minimal interest in this information. On this basis, the Court finds there is a
26 compelling reason to seal the documents that outweighs the public's interest in their disclosure.

1 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant's motion (Dkt. No. 191) is GRANTED. The Clerk
2 is DIRECTED to maintain Docket Numbers 192, 193, 194, and 195 under seal.

3 DATED this 31st day of July 2018.

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7 John C. Coughenour
8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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